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T. Stupac
3-21-03

Atty. Dkt. No.: P60752US0

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: Manfred EIGEN et al.

Serial No.: 08/750,715

Group Art Unit: 2856

Filed: March 19, 1997

Examiner: NOLAND, Thomas

For: A METHOD AND DEVICE FOR THE SELECTIVE WITHDRAWAL OF CONTENTS
FROM COMPLEX MIXTURES

AMENDMENT

Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicant submits the instant Amendment, together with a request for continued examination (RCE) in response to the Office Action mailed May 17, 2002.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 6, please delete the first paragraph and replace it with the following paragraph:

The method permits the withdrawal of one or a few components of a system, such as molecules, molecular complexes, vesicles, miscelles, cells, optionally embedded in an associated volume element (withdrawal volume), V ($10^{-9} \text{ l} \geq V \geq 10^{-18} \text{ l}$). This volume element is part of a larger volume of an environment which contains the small components to be withdrawn (sample volume). The withdrawal is effected by transferring the component or components to another

environment where in space and time of the withdrawal are determined by analytical signal which is correlated with the small component to be withdrawn. The analytical methods which may be used are those by which the molecular contents of smallest volume elements (10^{-14} l) can be analyzed as

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